

REMARKS

The Non-Final Office Action dated October 16, 2009, ("Office Action") has been received and carefully considered. Reconsideration of the outstanding objection in the present application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

I. THE ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS 1, 6, 7, 17, 20-31, 33-38, 40, AND 41

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 1, 6, 7, 17, 20-31, 33-38, 40, and 41 have been allowed.

II. THE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

An Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying PTO-1449 form were filed on July 28, 2009 (the "July 28, 2009 IDS"). On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that, based on an initial review, the subject matter of the references cited in the July 28, 2009 IDS "seems to have nothing to do with the subject matter of the claimed invention." *See* Office Action, Page 2. The Examiner requests that Applicant review the references to see if any or all were submitted in error. If the Applicant intended to have each of these references considered, Applicant is requested to point out those references which "most closely are directed to the subject matter of the claimed invention." *Id.*

In response to the Examiner's requests, Applicant respectfully submits that the July 28, 2009 IDS was filed in an attempt to satisfy Applicant's duty to disclose to the Patent Office information known by Applicant that may be material to the patentability of the pending claims. As such, Applicant requests consideration of every reference cited in the July 28, 2009 IDS. In addition, since the filing of the July 28, 2009 IDS, Applicant has become aware of additional

information that may be material to the patentability of the pending claims. Those references are cited in a Supplemental IDS that is filed along with this response. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of all the references cited in the July 28, 2009 IDS and the Supplemental IDS. However, as requested by the Examiner, Applicant has reviewed the July 28, 2009 IDS and the Supplemental IDS and has identified the following references as being more closely directed to the subject matter of the claimed invention:

1.	US 2001/0011222	08-02-2001	McLauchlin et al.
2.	US 2001/0018666	08-30-2001	Sugiyama et al.
3.	US 2001/0034663	10-25-2001	Teveler et al.
4.	US 2002/0055907	05-09-2002	Pater et al.
5.	US 2002/0178071	11-28-2002	Walker et al.
6.	US 2003/0018567	01-23-2003	Flitcroft et al.
7.	US 2003/0055675	03-20-2003	Klein
8.	US 2003/0110136	06-12-2003	Wells et al.
9.	US 20030187789	10-02-2003	Karas et al.
10.	US 2003/0191710	10-09-2003	Green et al.
11.	US 2004/0236688	11-25-2004	Bozeman
12.	US 2005/0086178	04-21-2005	Bonalle et al.
13.	US 2005/0228751	10-13-2005	Keown et al.
14.	US 2006/0095374	05-04-2006	Lo et al.
15.	US 2006/0178986	08-10-2006	Gioordano et al.
16.	US 2006/0287953	12-21-2006	Chauhan

17.	US 2007/0288334	12-13-2007	Credle et al.
18.	US 5787403	07-28-1998	Randle
19.	US 6167385	12-26-2000	Hartley-Urquhart
20.	US 6363364	03-26-2002	NEL
21.	US 6366635	03-26-2002	KOU
22.	US 6446072	09-03-2002	Schulze
23.	US 6513019	01-28-2003	Lewis
24.	US 6965882	11-15-2005	Lapstun
25.	US 7177836	02-13-2007	German et al.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner acknowledge consideration of the references identified in the July 28, 2009 IDS and the Supplemental IDS by initialing the respective PTO-1449 forms and returning a copy of the initialed forms to the undersigned.

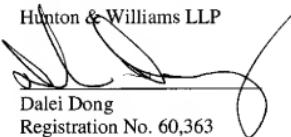
III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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